



Bike Edina Task Force: News & Meeting Outcomes

February 9, 2012

Purpose: The Bike Edina Task Force (BETF) meets to serve citizens and partner with City staff and elected officials to promote bicycle improvements in Edina for education, encouragement, infrastructure, enforcement, and ongoing assessment. We support implementation of the approved [City of Edina Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan](#) that serves all levels of bicyclists, connects key destinations including safe routes to schools, and integrates with the Twin Cities' regional bike network. Our **vision** is a progressive bicycle-friendly community where citizens can integrate cycling into their daily lives.

Time & Location: BETF monthly on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room at Edina City Hall. For questions contact Brad Schaeppi or Peter Kelley, Co-Chairs. Guests are welcome.

Distribution: BETF, guests, City Manager, City Engineer, Edina Police BETF Liaison Sgt. Timothy Olson, SHIP contact Robyn Wiesman, and Mayor & City Council. Also, Jack Sullivan to forward to the Edina Transportation Commission, and Dianne Plunkett Latham to post for the Edina Energy and Environment Commission.

- **Present:** Kirk Johnson, Alex Johnson, Jennifer Janovy, Don Eyberg, Sally Dunn, Peter Kelley, Larry Olson, Tom Randall, , Rob Erickson, Marty Mathis, Carl Follstad
- **Absent:** Brad Schaeppi , Alice Hulbert, Carl Gulbranson, Ellen Jones
- **Guests:** None
- **Recorded by:** Kirk Johnson

1. Tracy Avenue Improvements

- a. Jennifer Janovy & Peter Kelley have a copy of the feasibility study.
- b. Peter relayed that Wayne Houle stated that bike lanes do not add significant costs.
- c. Some widening is needed on the west (4 ft) to accommodate parking on the east side of the street & bike lanes on both sides of street (unless parking is eliminated, then widening is not needed).
- d. No parking study was completed. If parking were removed, all residents would have side street parking within reasonable distances. Staff is not proposing

removing parking, but is proposing reducing the number of spaces by adding parking bays. There are currently about 54 parking spaces on this section of Tracy; with parking bays there would be about 28.

- e. Noted that there will be a street reconstruction and there will be assessments regardless of the addition of bike lanes or maintenance of parking. Because Tracy is a state aid street, residents are assessed 20% of the project cost.
- f. Agreed that BETF advocates inclusion of the bicycle lanes on Tracy, due to proximity to Countryside School, connection to Edina High School and Valley View, plus intersection with Benton which is included in a first priority recommendation for bicycle routes according to the Comprehensive Plan. BETF is hesitant to advocate for the roundabout unless specific bicycling facilities are included to make it clear and safe for cyclists. Experienced cyclists may feel comfortable riding in the roundabout; they are advised to take the full lane and not drive near the perimeter for safety. Off-ramps from bike lanes onto an extra wide sidewalk should be provided for less experienced cyclists. It was noted the ramps and extra wide sidewalk are not shown in the current roundabout design. If needing to rank options between roundabout and realignment option, the realignment may be the better alternative as it is more typical for bicyclists, walkers, and motorists. Kirk Johnson and Peter Kelley to prepare a letter of support for the city council.

2. TLC Bicycle Boulevard

- a. Consultant is moving ahead with plans.
- b. Formally to be presented at the ETC meeting next week.
- c. Public meeting will be end of February or later.
- d. Steve Clark from TLC (grant provider) has been involved.

3. Bicycle Racks Installations: Wayne Houle is waiting for racks to be delivered. The mild winter may allow installation before spring (if the racks are received in time).

4. Road striping priorities: A city engineer is working on these for the four roads (70th, Cahill, Antrim, and Valley View) selected earlier for first treatments from the Bicycle Plan.

5. Bicycle Rodeo

- a. Saturday, April 21st at Cornelia from 10 a.m. to noon.
- b. Larry Olson sent a signup sheet and expects everyone and their helpers to be involved.

6. ETC Topic: Edina Shares the Road signs: Any inputs? There is a goal to have common wayfinding in the Twin Cities metro area. Jennifer Janovy will do some research.

7. Peter's recap from talking with Wayne Houle:

- a. No particular policy for sweeping routes for bicycle lanes – might be addressed in future policy. BETF supports Edina Engineering Department and or Public Works in defining this policy.

- b. Discussed benefits of improving the gap in bicycle lane going west on Interlachen to north on Blake. BETF supports Edina Engineering Department to continue working through this issue (apparently tied to a variance from the property owner).
- 8. **Tour de Edina 2012:** Marty Mathis is participating this year. Marty will let BETF know how to help behind the scenes. Kirk Johnson will inform Mary Brindle that Peter Kelley and Brad Schaeppi are BETF leads this year.
- 9. **Facebook** page is up to 25 people. Peter Kelley will look into settings for adding people.
- 10. **Website:** Blog entry is written. Peter will post Kirk's article and photos for winter lighting. Goal is to have at least two articles a month. Peter will have an editorial schedule next meeting to accomplish this.
- 11. **Living Streets meeting:** Coming up February 15th. Alice Hulbert and Rob Erickson expressed interest to attend, Jennifer will follow-up. There is an open meeting also on February 14th. Contact Jennifer for more information.